

THE  
Source of our Present Fears  
TK DISCOVER'D: 1703

OR,  
PLAIN PROOF  
OF  
Some Late Designs

Against our Present  
CONSTITUTION and GOVERNMENT.  
CONTAINING

Remarks on some Dangerous Pamphlets  
Publish'd of late; and a Justification of some  
Passages in the Preface to a Book, Intituled,  
*The History of the last Session of Parliament.*

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*Nam quo indignius rem Honestissimam & Rectissimam violabat Scultorum, & Improborum temeritas & audacia, summo cum Reipublica detrimento; eo studios vius & illis Resistendum fuit, & Reipublica consulendum.*

*Cic. de Invent. Lib. primo.*

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LONDON, Printed, And Sold by J. NUTT,  
near Stationers-Hall, 1703.

THE  
SOME OF THE  
PASTORAL PICTURES

PLAIN PROOF

Some Late Designs

CONSTITUTION  
GOVERNMENT



...of the ...  
...and ...  
...in the ...  
...of the ...

...of the ...  
...and ...  
...in the ...  
...of the ...

LONDON: Printed and Sold by J. ...  
West Strand, 1793



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THE  
PREFACE.

**T**Hese Sheets had not now appear'd, if some very late Proceedings, as well as Pamphlets, had not given Provocation to the Publication of 'em. The Person in whose Defence they were prepared, was content to have forgotten the hard and unjust usage he had met with, provided that Spirit had been laid which put it upon him.

## *The Preface.*

It was hop'd that the Easie and Successful Government of the Queen, wou'd have produc'd such a Calm in a certain Faction, that as there was no ground for, so there might have been no apprehensions of any Affront or Alarm from 'em, and and therefore private Resentments might have been buried.

But a very short time proves him and me mistaken, and that what his Cause does not now want, the Publick Peace seems to Require. I mean a Recapitulation of the attempts made upon our Constitution, some of which apparently tended to the disappointment.



## *The Preface.*

pointment of the Heir, at that time, next in Succession.

Whether something like the same Design be not still on foot I shall leave to those who will take the pains to Consider all that has lately pass'd, and been written, especially two very late Pamphlets, one Intituled, *The Shortest Way with the Dissenters*; The other, *The Exorbitant Grants of King WILLIAM the Third*: These two Pamphleteers appear in Masquerade, and under the Cloak of Piety and Affection to the Queen, insinuate to the People the most invidious and provoking things they can of Her: One invades the Conscience, and th'other



## *The Preface.*

th'other the Property of the People; and both of 'em, so far as they can, Alarm and Inflamm the People, in order to create Disturbances. The design of both is plainly and publickly apprehended, I wish the Writers and Encouragers were so too, and then I doubt not they wou'd be found to be *ejusdem Farinae*.

From these and some other Things, it is apparent that the design to Render the Church odious, to Embarras the Queen, and to Trouble the Peace of these Kingdoms is not yet quite laid aside; and therefore I adventure to look back, only to shew some People the Source of  
their

## *The Preface.*

their present groundless Jealousies  
and Alarms.

We are now Bless'd with a  
*Queen*, a *Church*, a *Constitution*,  
and a *Parliament*, under which  
ev'ry *English* Man may be happy  
if he pleases: But time only can  
effectually root out of the Minds  
of a Jealous People, those pan-  
nick Fears which the Artificial  
Terrors of Crafty Ill-meaning  
Men have Impress'd upon 'em.  
I doubt not the Queens Divine  
Gift of healing this mental *Kings-*  
*Evil* in the Nation, nor that Her  
Hand will have the Virtue to  
Stroke away all peccant Hu-  
mours, so soon as those malig-  
nant Causes that feed 'em shall be  
Remov'd.

## The Preface.

Remov'd. To discover them,  
the following Sheets will, I hope,  
contribute a little: But in assist-  
ing the Queen to compleat the  
Cure, abler Heads, and greater  
Authority must Concurr; which  
as I heartily wish, so I am yet so  
happy as not to Question.

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PLAIN





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PLAIN  
P R O O F  
OF SOME LATE  
D E S I G N S

Against our Present

*Constitution and Government.*

**T**HE *History* of the last *Parliament* and its Author, have been the objects of some Mens Spleen and Malice now a good while, and have been persecuted in Coffee-houses, and other Publick Places, with all the bitterness of base Spight, and licentiousness of Invention, that Self-consciousness or corrupt Zeal could prompt 'em to fling upon one, whom as an Adversary they had a mind by all manner of Arts to oppress.

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I shall

I shall not attempt any Vindication of the Author; because, 'tis evident to every impartial Judge (and to such only I speak) that whatever personal Aspersions have been cast upon him, they have been the forgeries of such Enemies, as that Book has rais'd up to him, who are generally of a faction among whom, *Calumniare Fortiter* has been one of the principal Articles of their *Political Catechism*.

The Book its self has little need of a Defence, it is justified by a tacit Confession of its Enemies, who passing over the body of the Book in Silence, have employed all their Art and Interest, to misrepresent a passage in the *Preface*, which only I shall therefore first recite, and then justify; the Words were these,

Preface, page 6. *And perhaps there was a third thing in prospect of deeper reach, than all these, which was, That should it have pleas'd God for our Sins to have snatch'd from us the King on the sudden, by chance of War or other fatal Accidents, during the Tumults of Arms abroad, and the civil Disorders they had rais'd among us at home, and a numerous corrupt licentious Parry throughout the Nation, from which the House of Commons was sometimes not free, they might entertain hopes from the*  
advan-



advantage of being at the Helm, and the assistance of their Rabble to have put in practice their own Schemes, and have given us a new model of Government of their own Projection, and so to have procured to themselves a lasting impunity, and to have mounted their own Beast the Rabble, and driven the sober part of the Nation like Cattle before them.

That this is no groundless Conjecture, will readily appear to any considering Persons, from the treatments Her Royal Highness the Princess of Denmark, the Heiress apparent to the Crown met with all along from them, and all their Party. They were not contented to shew Her a constant neglect, and slight themselves, but their whole Party were instructed to treat Her, not only with Disrespect, but Spight; they were busie to traduce Her with false and scandalous Aspersions, and so far they carried the Affront, as to make Her at one time, almost the common subject of the tittle tattle of almost every Coffee-house and Drawing-Room, which they promoted with as much Zeal, Application and Venom, as if a Bill of Exclusion had then been on the Anvil; and these were the introductory Ceremonies.

Those that Malign the Author and his Work, have singled out this Passage as most expos'd to the disadvantages of In-



terpretation, and therefore Exercise their Malice more especially upon it; yet after all the pains spent in turning, wresting and torturing it, they find themselves oblig'd in Prudence to such general Terms, as indeed sufficiently shew their own Resentments, but prove no Crime or thing Blame-worthy upon the Author.

Every thing Written is either *True* or *Falfe*, and accordingly ought to meet with Encouragement or Condemnation.

What is *True* can't be *Scandalous*. Because the word *Scandal*, in the Sense of our Law, implies a wrongful and generally a malicious Aspersion. What is *True* cannot be the cause of Misunderstandings; Because, if a right Representation be not so understood, it ought to be imputed to want of understanding, and not call'd Misunderstanding. For a right Representation can't be the cause of a Misunderstanding.

If these three Propositions may be granted, I dare undertake to defend the whole Passage. To those that deny them I will not take upon me to Demonstrate, that two and two make Four.

The Task I have undertaken is somewhat the more troublesome, because those who take the liberty to Reprehend, or licence to Rail at these two Paragraphs, tho' they seem

seem to quarrel with some Expressions only contain'd in them, yet avoid particularizing. By which they seem to labour to evade the force of any defence that shall be made.

If any Expressions in those Paragraphs above recited be Blamable, it must be because they are either *Falsities*, or *unseasonable Truths*: If the latter, the Author deserves no other Castigation, than ought to be given to an Honest, but Indiscreet Man, which I take to be no more than a modest and private Reproof.

But if what he has said be neither *False* nor *Unseasonable*, then I think he deserves Thanks not Correction. To see which of these is his due, the whole Passage must be Dissected, and the several Propositions which it contains Examined.

It is said to contain Expressions *False* and *Scandalous*. There are three ways wherein any thing said or written may be *False*, and two wherein it may be *Scandalous*. It may be *false Grammar*, *false Logick*, or *false History*, and it may be *Scandalous*, because it is false to the dishonour of some Person or Persons, or because it is true to the dishonour of some Person or Persons. This latter Sense of the word *Scandalous*, I own not to be a legal or genuine Interpretation of it,

it, but I allow it to custom and common usage, which frequently gives that signification to it.

In which of these ways, or what particular Expressions he has offended, his Adversaries have not specified; if his *Grammar* be false, let him be expos'd in better; if his *Logick*, let him be confuted by juster; but if his *History*, his Relations of *Fact* be false, let him suffer according to the nature and quality of his Crime, as the Law shall direct.

But if he has not offended against Truth, Prudence, or Decency (which I hope to prove) then I think some Reparation ought to be made him, that he may not suffer for attempting a *National Service* by such honest means as were in his Power.

The aforecited Words are compos'd in two Paragraphs, the former of which contains something *Hypothetical*, and something *Positive*; a suspicion that some People did entertain Designs of altering our Constitution, and that the Rabble was irritated and inflamed by such Persons upon those hopes, and an Assertion, that there was a time when some corrupt Men had crept into the *House of Commons*.

The latter in Confirmation of the former affirms no more, then that Her Present



sent Majesty, then Princess of Denmark, was the Heiress apparent to the Crown, and that the Slight and Neglects wherewith She was Treated, and the Unmannerly slanderous Discourses whereof She was both frequently and publickly made the Subject, were a sufficient ground for shrew'd Suspicions.

But since further Proof of the Justice of these Suspicions seem to be demanded, for the unreasonable usage of, and clamours against the Author, imply no less then a Challenge to make it good. I think it highly reasonable, that desire should be comply'd with. In doing this I shall not make use of all the Arguments and Instances that may be brought in justification of such Suspicions, because they wou'd be both endless and unnecessary; but I shall confine my self to such only, as, to my knowledge, the Author had in his thoughts and his view, when he wrote those Paragraphs, and were in part the Provocation; I say in part, because I intend not to employ all, that I am able to produce, nor to be able to produce all, that I know concurred, of which conduct I hope immediately to give a satisfactory account, in which the Reader may rest as well contented as the Author.

For

For the writing of these Paragraphs, and the Suspicions and Assertions contain'd in 'em, divers very urging and sufficient Provocations were given in the Conduct, Conversation and Writings of some sorts of Men. The two first sorts of Proof I shall use very sparingly, and confine my self to general but notorious Observations, because (as the *Author* has already in a proper place declar'd for himself) I have no design to become an *Evidence*, which particular and private Instances of this kind look too like.

However, because they may illustrate one another, I shall mix 'em together as they may serve best to explain each other. And here I desire the Reader to take notice, that many things which in a simple Proposition are strictly true and harmless, may by a wrong Application become both false and dangerous, of which, if I have room, I shall give more than a few Instances.

The *Author* himself has in the preceding part of that very Preface, given some reasons for his Suspicion, which his adversaries slipping over, as too just a ground, would expose a single Passage, naked and stript of any thing antecedent or consequent that might demonstrate the reasonableness of it.

The

The scandalous change that was made in the Commissions of *Lieutenancy, and Peace* through the greatest part of England, was one ground of his suspicion; for he cou'd not but think, that some ill Design against our Constitution was on foot, when those who were the stoutest Assertors of it, were (as I may say) disarm'd, and their Weapons put into the hands of Men, many of whom had in the Reign preceding by formal *Addresses*, under their hands testified, with great alacrity, their readiness to give up our Constitution and Laws, and had little pretence either to Property or Religion. The Gentlemen of the greatest quality and Estates, and of the best Reputation and Interest, who were therefore justly to be suppos'd, and had approv'd themselves the best Patriots, as having the greatest share of Property, Understanding and Courage, were generally turn'd out, and many Obscure, Mean or Obnoxious Men put into their places.

The *Author* upon presumption that the advisers were no Fools, imagines this to have been done with some design, and of the design he judges by the Tools made choice of to work it with, he thinks that this was done with design to give the Mob Spirit and Courage to contemn and affront  
 C their



their Betters, and to inspire 'em with an opinion of their own sufficiency, to handle the Reins of the Government. If this was not the reason, I am sure it was the Consequence of that Regulation, and I wou'd not willingly so far wrong the judgment of the *Advisers*, as to doubt whether they were aware of the Consequence of their own Schemes.

Let no Man say that I reflect upon the memory of King *William*, that's a fatal Artifice which some have used to screen themselves, who perhaps wou'd yet abuse his Name to as ill purposes, as they have heretofore done his *Authority*. The King was a Man, and as such was subject to Errors, and he was in a manner a stranger to our Land till he came to be King of it, and consequently cou'd not be so well acquainted with the Characters of his Subjects, as to know every Man that was fit or unfit, to be a *Deputy Lieutenant*, or *Justice of Peace*.

But though the King might not be duly informed of the Capacities and Qualifications of the several Persons to be employed or left out of such Commissions, his Advisers were, or at least pretended to be, and therefore are answerable as evil Councillours for the ill effects of their Advice.

For

For if they were not sufficiently apprised of the Merits and Qualifications of the Men, employed or to be employed, Why did they Advise any alterations in the Commissions? If they were, Why did they Advise such an alteration, as should give the Nation reason to complain with Indignation of that alteration by their Representatives in Parliament, and the King to make a Confession, that he had been abus'd, by his immediate re-instating the Persons, who at their Instigation had been displaced?

But let those Characterisers plead Ignorance, and the States-men that believed their Misrepresentation. I may venture to say, without fear of *Scandalum Magnatum*, that the first were not so Honest, nor the latter so Wise, as was requisite for the trust reposed in 'em, and that betwixt 'em, Knavery and Folly is the best of their Plea.

But to wave this invidious part of the *Argument*, I shall insist mainly on those Proofs, which the *Author* was denied time to produce, when it most imported him to do it, which are the Printed ones.

For the Proof of his Suspicion, that some ill People had a Design to alter our Constitution, the Reader is desired to look into a Pamphlet, Intituled, *The free state*

of *Noland*, where he will find, from Page the First, to Page the Fourth, the following Scheme in these words.

This Country is Situate beyond the Line, being part of the great *Southern Continent*, or *Terra Australis Incognita*, which Continent, though it be little known to the rest of the World (by reason of the Mist and Fogs, which lye almost continually before the Coast, and forbid our approaches to it;) yet the People have found means to know the World well, being also well skill'd in all the Arts and Learning of *Europe*: As for *Noland* in Particular, it very much resembles *England*, both in Soil and Climate, also (though it may seem incredible) they are of the same Religion, speak the same *English* Language, and have the *English* Laws; and their Government (till of late Years) was exactly conformable to the Monarchy of *England*; but the Royal Line wholly failing, they are now a *Free State*.

For when their last King died suddenly without Heirs, which also happen'd in an Interval of Parliament, the Peers met with all speed at their usual place of meeting, and gave notice forthwith to the Members of the last *House of Commons*, to meet there likewise. And now their great Business



Business was to choose a new King, and by the unanimous concurrence of Lords and Commons, they choose a Man of the highest Quality, who shall here be called *Aristæus*. He was a Person most accomplish'd in every Respect, and had been the late King's chief Minister and Favourite, to the great satisfaction and delight of the whole Kingdom. So that now they elected him their King, without any difficulty.

But the Excellent *Aristæus* seriously excused himself, and would by no means accept the *Crown*; he advised them rather to keep the Power in their own hands, and to settle themselves in the Happy and Glorious condition of a *Free State*. He told them, that both *He* and the *late King* ( who was the best of Men, and a true lover of his People ) had long consider'd and advis'd about such a Government; and had digested it for them. A Government wherein all sorts and degrees of People shall find their *Account* and feel their *Condition* better'd; shall be Enriched, Advanc'd, and Adorn'd with the spoils of the *Monarchy*, and shall have those advantages shared amongst them, which in a *Monarchy*, are engross'd and swallowed up by one Man; where the Peers will be in  
greater

greater Splendor and Honour, where the Gentlemen will have a mighty increase of Dignity, and where Trade and the Learned Professions will have high Encouragement; where also the meaner sort, by their right of Suffrage in Elections, will oblige the Great Ones (who are the Candidates) to treat them kindly, and without any appearance of Insolence or Oppression.

But, he chiefly insisted upon the great strength which this Government would give them against Foreign Enemies, making it plain to them, that the Nation would be infinitely stronger in a well order'd *Free State*, then under a Monarchy, *especially a mixt one*; telling them further, that this was no more than needful, in regard of the great Power of their Enemies. That the Neighbouring Idolaters (who were furiously bent to destroy the Christians) were exceeding Potent, especially one Over-grown absolute Monarch, that was ready to devour all that part of the World; so that it greatly concern'd them to Provide for a vigorous Opposition.

We find that Cardinal *Mazarin* had the same sentiments with *Aristæus*, concerning the Powerfulness of a *Free State*; a Book of his Letters is publish'd in *English*, many of which Letters were Written while he

he was engaged in the *Pyrenean Treaty* with *Don Lewis de Haro*, and in the seventh Letter, and the 135 Page of the Printed Book, there is this Passage.

We spoke of the *English Affairs* several times, agreeing that the Republick of *England* establishing it self, 'twas a Power to be redoubted by all its Neighbours; seeing without Exaggeration it would be a hundred times more formidable then that of their Kings.

This Letter is directed to Mr. *Le Tellier*, who was one of the Ministers then at *Paris*, and it bears Date the 25th. of *Aug.* 1659. at which time our famous long Parliament was yet in being, but their continuance doubtful, the very thoughts of which Parliament, made *Mazarin* and all *France* Tremble.

I suppose, that after the reading of the first Paragraph, it would be an impertinent presumption to take pains to convince the Reader, that *England* only is here meant. But if it were possible for him to doubt, the Author has taken sufficient care to put him out of his doubt again, by what he adjoins out of Cardinal *Mazarins's* Letters, and his Reflection at the bottom upon it.

Who is meant by the King that died without Heirs, and that King's chief Minister



nister and Favorite, I leave to more intelligent Men to find out, and shall only observe, that if at the time, when this Book was Printed, there was a King in *England*, who must when ever he died, die without any Heirs immediate of his own Body to the Crown, that then the *Author* must intend, that it should be understood of him; who *Aristæus* was, it is not worth while to enquire, because, it is very difficult to find among that Prince his Ministers, the Man that deserves *Aristæus's* Character, tho' perhaps not so hard to find more than one that had the pretended *Aristæus's* design in their Heads, so far forth at least as Confusion might serve their turn.

However it may not be improper to take notice, that this Book was Printed in the Year, 1701. the late King then living, and that it endeavours to persuade an entire Change of our Constitution upon his Death, and the Introduction of a *Common-Wealth*, which those Persons that pretend to be so fearful of Misunderstandings between the Queen and her People, have never thought fit to advert upon.

The remainder of the Book is an impertinent impracticable Scheme of a *Common-wealth*, wherein nothing deserves consideration, except the evil Intentions of  
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the *Author* and his Party. And that he charges upon the late King, and those that were most in his Confidence, a design of altering our Constitution after his Death.

Let the *Author* answer for the Reality of that *Design*: It was enough to give the *Writer* of the *History* of the last *Parliament* a jealousy, that there were ill *Designs* against our Constitution, and such as must immediately affect our next Successor, when he found such Books to pass current and unpunished.

But when he found that in consequence of these Seditious Pamphlets, one part of our Constitution was openly and impudently assaulted, and threatned in Print, he thought it then high time to make such answer from the Press, as he might without breach of Modesty or Veracity.

When he found the House of Commons Threatned by Letters, and Buffooned in Ballads, and their Power as openly and lawcily, though more seriously questioned in Prose, he thought it absolutely necessary to transmit by the same way to the People, some wholesome *up-dote* against the violence of those Poisons.

The Scheme offer'd in this Pamphlet, is extracted from *Harington's Oceana*, which with *Sidney's Discourses upon Government*;

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and

and other Books of the same Stamp, have of late Years been ushered into the World with too much Pomp and Solemnity, for us to believe that it was intended they should be looked upon, as Books affording matter of idle Speculation only.

But the temper of the *House of Commons* in several of our last Parliaments, was an extraordinary damp to the hopes of that set of Men, till they thought they had formed a strength elsewhere sufficient to give them a Resurrection, with prospect of Success, there. An attempt was made all over *England*, to alienate the meaner People in their *Affections*, from their Representatives in Parliament, and their Success with the *Dissenting Party*, gave them courage to attack the whole House of Commons in the Year, 1700.

They were indeed convinced that the Majority of the Gentlemen, were not to be wrought to a temper Mischievous to their Country, and that those who gave in to their Measures, did it upon private and particular Views; and therefore did (as far as in them lay to do it) discountenance and disgrace them all, except a few, of whom they were assured, who were to head their new made Mob of Squires.

The



The *House of Commons* were aware, whither these Proceedings tended, and upon just grounds impeached some of the Leaders of the Party of high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

This put the Party into an outrageous Ferment, and the Devil was to be raised to support his Cause, and that Justice may be done even to him, he owned and put his Name to it, subscribing as heretofore, *Legion*.

His Humble Servants sent a Letter to the House of Commons, and though they put only their Master's Name, impudently called themselves Two Hundred Thousand, a Number which I hope he has no claim to in this Kingdom; however, they were doing his Business, and laid hold of a slight occasion to shew their forwardness for his Service.

A Rude *Address*, or rather Remonstrance was brought from *Maidstone* in *Kent*, which the House resented as became their Trust and Dignity; whereupon the Chief Legionites (who had prepared this and many other *Addressees* of the like nature, which miscarried upon the ill success of this) resolved to try the Courage of the House, and see how far they might be bullied.

It may be worth while to enquire into the Reason and intent of this Letter, which will best appear from the Posture things then stood in.

Some Persons of considerable Name, had by indirect Practices, and Depredations upon the Publick, render'd themselves Obnoxious to the *House of Commons*, who thought themselves to be (as truly they are) the Trustees of the People, and therefore required an account of those Inbeslements, Mismanagements, and Misdemeanors by which they thought the Nation so highly injur'd.

The Party, who had another Game to Play, in order to divert the *House* from their intended Prosecution, discharged their whole tire of Artillery at once, and in order to Bully them, let flie *France, Kent, and Legion* together.

These Instruments they employed to three several purposes, absolutely necessary to their main *Design*; to disgrace the Country Gentlemen, to fright and alarm the People, and to Bully the *House of Commons*; into all which, they drew the late King to be both a Party and a Property against his own Interest. For finding the *House of Commons* resolved not to be ridden, apprehensive of their *Designs*, and reso-

resolutely bent to enquire into the Mystery of their Conduct, they found it necessary, first to prejudice the King against them, and then if possible the People.

In the first, they found Credit enough with the *King* by means of their *Leading Men* to prevail with him to dissolve two Parliaments successively, without any Reason or previous sign of *Dissatisfaction*, or any visible Cause, than that a certain *Party* thought themselves not strong enough among the *Commons*, and hop'd for a better Chance in a new Election. But knowing their own Credit to be very low with the People, they found it necessary to engage the *King* on their side, and accordingly wrought him so far as to descend to Closetting, and other Arts below the *Majesty of a King*, and of the last ill Consequence to the Liberties of the People.

This was a great Point gained, yet not sufficient for all their purposes. The Nation was so thoroughly alarm'd at their late Conduct, and the Condition they had brought us into, that they thought the King's Indulgence abus'd; which consideration abated much of that influence, which otherwise it would certainly have had. The *Party* were not un-



unaware of this, and therefore laid hold of the Opportunity of those Fears, which their own Mismanagement had inspired, with all the Art and Craft of a corrupt and guilty Eloquence. Some of them displayed and magnified the Power and Terrors of *France*, and inveighed against her Treachery ( which they had but lately despised, or trusted to no small degree of Folly,

Considerations on the succession of the Duke of *Anjou*.

if in what they did they were ever sincere ) and cunningly lamented the Misfortune of our

*Divisions* at Home, while we were threatned with such ap-

Present interest of *England*.

parent *Dangers* from Abroad, and seemed to Whisper modestly the

Apprehensions they had of a very Powerful Party here, whom erroneous Principles, or *French* Gold had withdrawn from the true Interest of their Country, and fastened to their

Moderator.

A view of the Controversy betwixt Whigg and Tory, &c.

Old Abdicated Prince, or the King of *France*. But these things were Cunningly and Cautiously

insinuated, and served only like *Potguns* to frighten Women, Children, and Fools into

into a *Panick Apprehension* of an other *Irish Night*. The use the *Cunning Men* made of them, was to create a diffidence in the People of the sufficient strength or good inclinations of our Selves or Representatives, and to resolve all our Safety and Security into the King alone, of whom they thought themselves intirely secure.

In the mean time they knew that they had other *Engines at Work*, to fix their Fears and Suppositions upon a great part of the *House of Commons*, and in it upon those particular persons in whom the People had with Reason the highest Confidence, and from whom they had the greatest Expectations of Faithful Service. This practice has been carefully nursed up ever since the Year, 1688. to this present time. The drift of it has all along been under a pretended care of the *Protestant Religion* in general terms, undermine the *Established Church of England*. To this end, all those that have been Watchful and Solicitous for the Welfare and Security of that Church, have been Represented to the People, as Enemies to the Government, under the Names of *Church-Papists, Jacobites and French Pensioners*;

*sioners* ; which practice has of late Years been carried so high, as to take in all those who shewed any concern for our Civil Constitution, or had the Courage to Condemn the Male-Administration of certain Ministers, who had put themselves at the head of a Party which laboured to subvert our Constitution as well Civil as Ecclesiastical.

But not to look to far back in the Year, 1699. Besides a Number of little Impudent Pasquils to Defame particular Men, came out two Pamphlets of a Size, something above the Rest, whose Malice was particularly level'd at one part of the *House of Commons*, to which we are at this day more then ordinarily oblig'd ; for their Prudence, Courage and Steadiness at that time, and those particular Blessings which we enjoy in this.

The *Authors* are indeed very much to be distinguish upon the different Evidences of their parts, and the Address and Skill shewn in their Performances.

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The first made it his  
Business to Flatter, and  
Varnish over the slender  
Merits of some few  
then in the Ministry,

of whom the Nation has found great  
Cause since to complain, and, as it were  
by the by only, falls obliquely upon that  
part of the *House of Commons*, to whom  
the Nation has since found and acknow-  
ledged it self extremely indebted for their  
great Care and Providence at that Time ;  
for which the Reader may consult from  
*Pag. 10. to Pag. 16.* to which I refer  
him, to avoid a Citation of too great  
length to be Inserted.

History of the last  
Parliament, Prin-  
ted for Jacob Ton-  
son, 1699.

The Latter Reviles a  
great part of the *House*  
through his whole *Libel*  
in such scurrilous *Billing-  
sgate* Language, as deserves  
no other Lash then he  
has had the Grace to give himself in  
an answer Written by himself, except a  
few additional ones from a proper hand  
at the Carts-tail.

Cursory Remarks  
upon some late  
Disloyal Proceed-  
ing, &c. Printed  
1699.

The pretence for these Practices and Outeries, was to arm the People against *Papists, Jacobites*, and disaffected Persons, of whom they pretended a mighty fear, though at the same time they knew and despised the weakness of all that were really such, whether for Number, Power, or Interest; and perhaps secretly gave them more encouragement than any of those did upon whom they covertly laboured to fix the Character.

When with this seeming Modesty and these pretended Fears, they had spread the Apprehension among the People of most terrible dangers of they knew not what, from they knew not whom, then out came the Expositions which these mysterious Gentlemen, and their party had prepared before hand to fix the Scandal, and level the fury of the Mob at those particular Persons, whom they had most mind to destroy as being the Men, whom their guilt made them fear most, and consequently hate most. *Sham Vindications* from such Crimes and Imputations, as they knew to be most unpopular, and most likely to rivet the suspicion of the People, were prepared for many of the most considerable Persons  
in

in both *Houses*, and industriously dispersed all over *England*, especially about the Country, where, it was hoped, that no *Purgation* might come to wipe out the stain, which these Vindications were contrived to leave behind them, and therefore were distributed *gratis* in great Numbers.

But to prosecute all the honest Gentlemen, they bore Malice to, that way, was as well too expensive as too tedious, and would have cost our *Scandal Mon- gers* more to Print, and their *Cullies* more pains to Read, then either cared to be at; and therefore as well out of good Husbandry, as Policy, they took an other method with great Numbers, and Printed Papers of impudent *Diffamatory Queries*, every one of which arraigned some worthy Gentleman of something very False and Scandalous, which generally was backt with some forg'd Story to give it Countenance.

Yet though they afforded their Scandal very cheap, and could traduce Forty or Fifty of the best Men of the Kingdom in one *half penny Libel*, this comprehensive manner of Slander was not



however extensive enough for their Malice. To supply this defect, *Lists* were Published, including Hundreds at once, who were, all together in the Lump in one villainous *Lying Preface*, stigmatiz'd with the same *Black Character*.

In none of these had they any regard to Truth, Probability, or Decency ; but as Invention begun to flag, *Queries* were substituted to Vindications, and when it grew jaded, *Lists to Queries* ; so much their Malice outrun their Invention, and their profusion of *Lies* their Exchequer, as it has done in other things.

And yet to do these Gentlemen justice, they neither wanted a Stock of Invention to Forge Materials, nor Wit to shape, to their own purposes, such as chance presented to them, however naturally otherwise unfit. Of which two instances from amongst the Multitude, may suffice. The Vindication of the Earl of *Rocheſter*, and that of the three Gentlemen that were abused upon the score of *Monſieur Pouſſin*. In the first they had the Address to turn those things which were matter of the highest Honour to that noble Earl, and for which  
this

this Nation ought always to have an extraordinary regard for him, into Obloquy and Reproach; and in the latter to lay a hold of an innocent accidental Meeting, and by their own Interest to procure a critical dismissal of that Minister, and thereby to fasten a suspicion of a Criminal Correspondence betwixt him and those Gentlemen, and upon both to graft their own Forgeries to the deceiving of many unwary People. But Providence which has defeated the rest of their machinations, has likewise in a short time detected the cheat of these, and shewn that out of the number of those, against whom they laboured so hard to incense their Prince, and to provoke the Rage of the giddy Multitude, has the glory of our Nation, and the strength of our now Successful Councils been form'd, and under God great hopes of the deliverance of *Europe* risen.

Whether any of these Authors, the first excepted did really wish a through change in our Constitution, I will not directly determine: But considering the Doctrines they advanced, and the Persons they endeavour'd to disgrace, if we allow them that share of understanding, which they

they pretend to, there is just reason to suspect it; and if we may charge upon them a foresight of those Consequences which were the immediate result of these practices, I think there is Proof even to a demonstration.

For, no sooner did the Faction find themselves disappointed of their hopes, from these Artifices, and that the Country upon a new Election had approv'd their former Choice, and that whatever alterations were made in particular places were in the whole to their disadvantage; but they fell into measures that savoured more of Despair and Distraction than any compos'd Resolution. Disappointments do naturally make Men *Angry* and *Peevish*, but they do not usually make Men of *Prudence Mad*; however, they happened to have this effect with the Party at that time.

After flattering the *King* with all the Confidence, that any Prince, who aim'd at the most *Despotick Power* upon Earth, could desire, they seemed to grow indifferent, whether *vox populi* or *ratio ultima regum* prevail'd. When they could not prevail upon the King to exert a  
Power



Power sufficient for their turn, they descended to the other extreme, to sollicite the Mob.

*Flectero si nequeo Superos, Acheronta Movebo,*

What the King would not do the Mob should; and what Constitution, or whether we hath any settled one or no, seems to have been all one to them, while the main design of unhinging the present went forward.

For this several Trains were laid, but the first Mine they sprung was from *Kent*. Most of the Counties and Corporations of *England*, where the Faction had the least prospect of Success, had been tamper'd with to send unmannerly *Petitions* to the *Parliament*, but the forwardness of the Worshipful Squire *Tates*, *Maidstone* Worthies rendred that project abortive. The *Kentish* Petition was conceived in unmannerly sawcy *Terms*, and was in Truth rather a *Remonstrance* or Direction of *Superiors*. This indignity the House resented, and let them know that they, who in a private *Cabal*, pretended to resolve and determine for the whole

whole *Commons* of *England* deserv'd *Correction* for their *Presumption* and want of *Manners*.

This seasonable *Adversion* put a stop to the *Career* of those forward *Sparks*, ( of whom the party sometimes brag'd ) that had the *Boldness* to put their hands to what they durst not show their faces with, and therefore dropt. I blame not the *Gentlemen*, for their seasonable caution, because I think the next thing, to having never done amiss is to Repent betimes.

This dastardly despondency put the *Faction* into an uproar, and since nothing but raising a *Devil* would serve the turn, *Legion* was conjured up, and he endeavoured to Bully the *House* as well in *Rime* as in *Prose*; yet even he proved a Cowardly unsuccessful *Devil*, and when he found the *House* defied his attempts, durst not produce the *Muster Roll* of his *Black Guard*, which he had vaunted to amount to Two Hundred Thousand; so great is the Power of Right, and a good Conscience, even to fright the *Devil*.

But

But even this defeat did not discourage some of his Champions; there were those found, who had yet Zeal enough to write the History of the Achievements of him and his Party. I am sorry that I have any occasion to take notice of this part of the Story, and could wish that some Persons who would be thought *Lovers* of their Country, had not shewn themselves Abbetors of this Crew.

But these missing of the designed effect upon the *House*, they set themselves to work in earnest to stir up the Mob. To this purpose out came two Appeals to the People, one Intituled, the *History of the Kentish Petition*, and the other, *Jura Populi Anglicani*, or the *Subject's Right of Petitioning set forth*, &c. In these not only the insults and mences of the former *Libels* were repeated, particular Members traduced, and the Proceedings of the whole *House* arraign'd; but the very essence and being of a *House of Commons* was assaulted, and that part of our Constitution which alone secures the *Rights and Liberties* of all the *Commons of England*,



(so far as in them lay) subverted and destroyed.

I shall not in this place trouble myself to refute the dangerous *Positions* contained in these Books, that trouble is superseeded by the Author, in the very *Work* which I defend. The *Reader* may find there from *Pag.* 128. to *Pag.* 155. a Refutation of these pernicious *Doctrines*, which is (in my Opinion at least) not only full and sufficient but unanswerable, whither therefore I refer him, if his *Curiosity* or his *Judgment* be yet unsatisfied.

My design at present is not to shew the invalidity of such *Reasonings* and *Practices*, but the natural tendency of them, and upon what Views, and with what Purposes and Intentions they were probably written. To do this Concisely and Distinctly, it may not be amiss to take a summary review of the whole Train, and the order and regularity with which the *Engineers* gave Fire to it, and then perhaps the *Reader* will readily agree with the *Author* and *Me* in his Judgment of the ends, for which  
it

it was laid, and the consequences which it must necessarily have had, if it had succeeded to the wish of those, who projected it.

To do this clearly, it will not be necessary to remount higher than the Death of the late *King of Spain*, and the Succession of the *Duke of Anjou* to all his Dominions. For though it is not unlikely that the *Design* was of much older *Date*, yet upon that accident the management of it required and received a new turn, was enforced by other *Topics*, and prosecuted by *Artifices* somewhat different from those which the party had made use of before ; though perhaps the *Ground-work* and main *Design* remain still the same at the bottom.

The first step, they took upon this *New Occasion*, was to fill the People with terrible *Apprehensions* and dreadful *Expectations* of *Slavery* and *Ruine* from the fatal union of *France* and *Spain*, which (they said) hung immediately and almost unavoidably over the Heads of us and of all *Europe*, unless diverted by

the wonderful *Prudence, Courage, Magnanimity, &c.* of the *King*, on whom therefore alone they advis'd us to rely, and to vest him singly with all our Powers, Confidence, and Security.

This point they managed indeed with admirable Dexterity, and succeeded so far by means of a Party, who artificially seconded their Cry, that they spread a *Pannick Fear* and *Consternation* over many undiscerning Persons in all Quarters of the *Kingdom*. And as it is natural for Persons in such *Frights*, to fling themselves inconsiderately under any Covert that seems to promise *Protection*, rather than discreetly and deliberately to Exert themselves and their own Strength, which is always the best Defence; So the high Opinion, which they justly entertained of the great *Personal Virtues* and *Endowments* of the King, concurring with their Fears, had disposed many to have lodged in him alone such Powers, as for their own Security their wiser Ancestors, and even they themselves had always to that time, thought too great for any Prince how *Good* and *Virtuous* soever. To keep  
up



up this Disposition, the People were kept under continual Alarms, with *Rumors* and *Reports* of the great readiness the *French* were in to invade us with a great *Fleet*, and that King *James* himself lay at *Boulogne* with a numerous Army, ready to Embark for *England* with the first fair Wind ; which terrible *Amazements* lasted, and the expectation of a *French* Invasion was continued by short Adjournments from week to week, till by the care of our *Parliament* (than which the *Devisers* of these *Tales* dreaded nothing more.) Our Fleet was got ready with unexpected Expedition, and then all these *Bugbear* Preparations vanished, and the whole appeared to be a Contrivance to fright the People into some indiscreet precipitate Measures. However the Cheat lasted long enough for them to begin to form a Party for a *Standing Army*, who convinced by this Chimerical Necessity, united against, and arraign'd those openly, who by timely *Disbanding* the late Army had wisely provided for our Security at Home.

It

It is easie for a purblind Judge to see, that had this *Plot* succeeded a *Standing Army*, had been the consequence of it, and what the effect of that must have been, it were almost an Affront to the *Reader's* Judgment to tell him. For though the King would not have employed an *Absolute Power* to our hurt, and might have used it exceedingly to our Benefit. Yet this is plain, that such a Power in the hands even of the best and wisest of Mortals, makes the Liberty and Property of his Subjects precarious, and may through *Human Infirmary*, or *Fatal Mistake*, be misemployed to their *Destruction*. It has been found by constant Observation in all parts of the World, that most Princes do naturally desire more *Power* than is absolutely consistent with the Wellfare of their Subjects. Nor is this always a Vice. For a good *Prince* may desire it to enable him to do them more good, and to shew with greater Luster and Advantage the Excellency of his Government, and the Greatness of his Affection and Tenderness for his People. And yet his People may not be  
to

to blame, if they should deny it him, even when they were satisfied that he would use it to their Benefit. For it is so hard to resume any Extraordinary Power granted to Princes, that such an indulgence to a good Prince might be their Ruine when his right should devolve on another, whom they had less reason to trust. And these I am apt to believe were the Reasons on both sides, why upon the Conclusion of the last War, the *King* and his *Parliament* did not exactly Jump in their Opinions, concerning the Number of Forces necessary to be kept up in this Kingdom during the Peace. For when the Ministers of a Prince, press or labour for such a Power, it is very much to be doubted that they do it for self ends, and by Considerations, which are not so conducive to the publick Wellfare; but when we see them persuing their Aim by indirect and sinister ways, we may then be sure, that they are not to be trusted. For there is no manner of Reason to expect, that they should use that Power well, which they take such ill courses to procure.

This



This Consideration will lead us naturally to suspect the *Design* of our *Politicians* from the next step they made towards it. For having by the Experiment, but now mentioned, found that the *Parliament* was not to be cajoled into any thing that might be Prejudicial, though but hereafter, to the Liberties of the People, and that this wary humour daily spread and increased among the more understanding sort of People, through the vigilance of their Representatives, they saw plainly, that their whole real Strength consisted in a Party whose *Temper* and *Principles* were opposite, to those of the Majority of the *Parliament*, upon some difference in opinion about *Religious Matters*, and in some Creatures and Dependents of their own, and such other mistaken Men, as the Credit of being the Kings Friends decoyed into their Party; that is, in the profest *Dissenters* from the *Church of England*, and a Parcel of *Renegades*, who in hopes of Preferment had (like a certain Captain's Volunteers) all Listed themselves Officers under them, by the name of *Whiggs*, a  
name

name which few of them knew the meaning of, or what they Engaged to be by it. But like a certain noble Leader of theirs, who once Publickly made a Learned and Ingenuous Declaration, that though he did not know what was meant by a *Whigg*, yet he was a *Whigg*, and intended to continue such, they were they knew not what, and so intended to continue. Among these Implicit Faith, was true blew *Protestant Doctrine*, and follow your Leader the whole *Duty of Man*.

These were resolute Troops but not sufficient to give Battle upon Equal terms to the strength of the Nation, which was against them, and therefore they betook themselves to Stratagem and surprise, and the Credit of the King. Having sufficiently frightened the Mobb with the fear of Popery and wooden-Shoes, and then Comforted them again a little with the Sovereign Remedy, for all evils the King, they fell to weeping Like Crocodiles over the mischief they had done and were to do. They Lamented in most Pathetick Strains

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the unhappiness of our Condition, and aggravated the misfortune of being divided amongst our selves, which gave such a fatal damp to the Salutary Influence of the King's most Effications and all healing Genius. They told us that this was no time for Retrospectious and Enquiries into Peccadillo's Inadvertences, slips and slight Mismanagements; and proclaimed all those Enemies to the King, and who thought fit to proceed against them Betrayers of the security of the Nation. By which peice of craft they thought they had either secured to themselves impunity, for past misdemeanours, or laid upon those, who should offer to call them to account, the odious Character of Enemies to the Government, and Betrayers of their Country, and by either way to have destroyed their Credit with the People. And at the same time they endeavoured to dispose the People to be governed absolutely by the King, they prepared the King to be advised and directed by themselves, as the only faithful Friends he had. Then they began to rail more openly at the *Jacobites* and *Tories*, through whose malignity they would



would perswade us that all the Kings mighty designs miscarried.

Thus far the Thread of their Plot was Reasonably fine Spun, but a Courser twist was Required for Vulgar use, for which it was intended. Their slow apprehensions needed broader Signs than sly Inuendo's and subtle malicious Insinuations, and therefore after they had possessed 'em that we had amongst us such *Dangerous Men*, the Party were not wanting by printed *Queries* and *Lists* in words at length and not in Figures to *signifie*, who were to be *Sacrificed* toward the carrying on the *Grand Design*.

But, because Anonymous *Authors* were not supposed to carry with them Credit sufficient to blast the Reputation of most of the Considerable *Gentry* of *England*, some who knew the great serviceableness of Regulations when any glorious piece of mischief was in hand, found means to perswade the *King* to alter the Commissions of the *Leitutenancy* and *Peace* through the greatest part

of the Kingdom, and by turning out of Commission almost every where the Gentlemen of the best Quality, to Countenance and fix the Scandal which themselves had previously taken care to lay upon the Friends to our Constitution.

In this they had a double Advantage. For, while by displacing these Gentlemen, they gave a *Reputation* and *Authority* to their *Libels*, by placing their own Creatures in their Room; they seem'd to Catechize and Instruct the meaner People, by the King's Authority and Example, what sort of Men they were to put their Confidence in.

But here their Politicks failed them, and they Built upon a *Rotten Foundation*. For, whether it were that they had miscomputed the strength of their Party, or presumed too far upon the influence of the King's Commissions, this very Contrivance which was intended as an *Ignis Fatuus*, to mislead the

the People, prov'd a clear Light into all their *dark Designs*, and became afterwards a true Guide to those whom it was intended to bewilder.

For whether our *Nation* is not yet so far *Debauched*, as to afford for such purposes enow Instruments of Figure, ( which I hope is our Case ) or that these *Regulators* had not knowledge particular enough of the proper Tools, they made such a Choice of Persons to fill our Benches of Justices, as instead of influencing People of the *Lower Rank* ( for which it was intended ) was matter of just *Scandal* and *Offence*, to all degrees and conditions of Men throughout the *Nation*, an insignificant Crew of their Creatures, and the *Dissenters* only excepted. For tho' the People might be abused and deceived in the Character of Persons remote and at a distance, yet when they came to bring the Scandal home to their own Doors, and traduce their next Neighbours, the Eyes of the People were opened, and they readily concluded from the Injustice done to those  
for



for whose Integrity they could answer, that the rest might probably be as much wronged, though less known to them.

This consequence however obvious in it self was unforeseen by them, so far had the Countenance of the King, and the Confidence of their Party blinded them. The success was answerable. They ventured to perswade a new Parliament, and the People chose most of those Men, whose service the Kind had Rejected, and thereby provided for their own security, and made Honourable Reparation to those Gentlemen, upon whom an Indignity so unworthy had been put.

Missing thus of such a *House of Commons* as they had projected, which would tamely give up our Constitution and the Rights of the People; the next Expedient was by all possible means to Baffle the Credit and Authority of the *House of Commons*, and so

so to render that Branch of our Constitution insignificant and useless. For this purpose the *Kentish* Petition, and divers others never presented were handed about amongst the Faction through the greatest part of *England*, and great endeavours were used to draw in as many unwary well-meaning People, as might be prevailed upon by Surprise and Clamour.

For this, *Legion* attempted to Bully the *House*, the *Kentish* Historian arraigned their proceedings; *Jura Populi Anglicani* Laboured to destroy their Power as a *House*; and all of them to the utmost of their Power subverted the Rights of the *House* and abused the Persons of the *Members*.

But least all this should not suffice, as indeed it did not, out comes a doubtful Piece written as is suspected by one not unacquainted with a certain Ecclesiastical

A Discourse of the  
Contests and Dis-  
sensations between  
the Nobles and the  
Commons in *A-*  
*thens* and *Rome*,  
&c.

cal writer of an other  
*House* and order. This  
*Author*, whether our  
of Ostentation to shew  
his Political Reading  
and Capacity, or to lead  
his unlearned *Reader*

out of his way, or perhaps both, takes  
a very solemn Progress through *Greece*  
and *Italy*, and with all the Pomp and  
Parade of an affected Learning, and  
far fetch'd strain'd Precedents endea-  
vours to charge all the Corruptions of  
*Rome* and *Athens* upon our Country;  
I shall not say his, least in that I should  
do him wrong.

By the Liberty, this Gentlemen in-  
dulges to himself in his *Historical Ac-*  
*count* of the differences between the  
*Nobles* and *Commons* of *Rome* and *Athens*,  
it is easie to guess not only of which  
side he is at Home, but likewise who  
is his Casuist, he has acted so fully  
up to the License granted by a particu-  
lar Friend of his, to those that write  
*History* for a Party.

It



It is said by a certain Reverend Historian, \* *That an Historian who favours his own side, is to be forgiven, tho' he put a little too much Life in*

\* Reflect. on  
Monsieur Vauil-  
las his History,  
P. 78.

*his Colours, when he sets out the best side of his Party, and the worst of those from whom he differs; and if he but slightly touches the failures of his Friends, and severely aggravates those of the other side; and that tho' in this he departs from the Laws of an Exact Historian, yet this Bias is so Natural, that if it Lessens the Credit of the Writer, yet it doth not blacken him.*

It is indeed a great Liberty which this Casuist allows, and this Author has taken; but it is not much to be wonder'd at. For if Common Fame be not the verriest Lyar in the World, the Divine has not been much more scrupulous than the Historian; and the *Fides Evangelica* has been as freely dealt with as the *Fides Historica*. These Authors keep pace with one another like Friends; and the Discourse is written with all the Latitude of an Exposition: For the Author profits so well by a great Example, that one third part of our Constitution is treated with no more Reverence, than if it were but one Article in Thirty nine, and the great

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Body

Body of our Legislators are laid upon an unmannerly Level, with the Mob of *Athens* and *Rome*.

To take a view of the Design and Principles of this Author, it will be requisite to look a little into his Introductory and Conclusive Chapters. First, he endeavours to settle a wrong notion

\* Discourse, of a \* *Ballance in Civil Power*,  
P. 3. and having granted, That *in all*

*Governments there is an absolute and unlimited Power, which naturally and originally seems to be placed in the whole Body, wherever the Executive part of it lies*, Where to Lodge this Executive Power, he seems at first to be in some doubt, But

P. 4. soon concludes from the Principles of *Nature and Common Reason* (as he pretends) that a *single Hand* is the fittest. Now what sort of Government he means to recommend, is hitherto uncertain; because he does not define what, or how much he means by the *Executive Power*; nor whether he is willing to *Prescribe and Limit* it according to the known Laws and Present Constitution of *England*. But he is talking yet of Government in general, without any of those Restrictions which particular Countries have thought fit to prescribe for themselves;

selves; and therefore he must be understood of Power in the largest extent, which he Lodges in a *single Hand*, and is what has been called *Tyranny* in the strictest sense, which is now a days called *Absolute Monarchy*, or by terms Synonimous, *Arbitrary* or *Despotick Power*.

'Tis true, he mentions Two other forms of Government, a *great Council* or *Senate* of *Nobles*, and the Government by the *Collected* or *Represented Body of the People*: But these he does not Recommend, as either so Natural or Convenient as the first, yet of the two he prefers the former. This is so manifest an Arraignment of the *Constitution of England*, that to avoid the Censure of Aiming at the *Subversion* of our Constitution he thinks fit to divide Power in the *Last Resort* amongst all the three former: But, what he means by the Power in the *Last Resort*, he explains no more, than he did, in the foregoing Page, how far he would extend the *Executive Power*. Yet he tells us, That it will be an *Eternal Rule* amongst all free People,

That *there is a Ballance of Power so* P. 5.  
*be carefully held by ev'ry State with it*  
*self, as well as among several States with each*  
*other.*



What he means by e'vry State *Ballancing* of Power with it self, is hard to be understood: For if it be not Nonsense, it is very unintelligible Sense. Ev'ry State considered in the Agregrate as such, is as much an Individual, how many Members soever it may consist off, as a single Person can be: And therefore to talk off Ballancing Power with it self, which implies dividing the Power, is as absurd, as to propose it to a single Person.

If he had said that ev'ry State, consisting of distinct Members, with distinct and separate Powers, ought so to divide those Powers, and so to maintain the Distribution of 'em, that they might remain so far equilibrated, as that one Branch of the Constitution might not be able to oppress the Rest, he had delivered something intelligible. But, this was not his meaning appears evidently from the Description of a *Ballance*, which he immediately subjoyns.

*It supposes (says he) three things. P. 5. First, the Part which is held together, with the Hand that holds it, and then the two Scales, with what is weighed therein.*

By this Notion of a *Ballance*, it is plain that the whole Power is in the *hand* that holds the *Ballance*; and that the Powers weigh'd in

in the *Scales*, are no more than dead weights to be dispersed or tumbled backwards and forwards at the Pleasure and Discretion of the *Weigher*.

If this be the Scheme of Government which he has contriv'd for us (if it should prevail) we might have the most *Arbitrary Despotick* Government in the World; nay, and must have, if it should please the person, or persons into whose hands he would put the Ballance. For what is it that gives any single Man the power of *Tyrannizing* over any Countrey? Surely not the Strength and Force of the single person of the Prince, but the Means of using one part of the people, to serve as Instruments to obtain his ends and purposes upon all the Rest. And what is this more than holding and turning the Ballance (according to our Authors Phrase) as he pleases? which tho' some may do with more Moderation and Tenderness towards their People, than others, yet all that are possess'd of the holding the Ballance, may use with equal Liberty, if they think themselves equally secure.

This is the Condition which we have been struggling for Many Years so hard to prevent, the very Fear of which produced the late Revolution, and cost so many Millions.

lions. For if, under Pretence of *Ballancing* the State, it shall be left in the power of any one part to raise or depress the Rest at Discretion, that part is Absolute that has such a power, of what Number of persons soever, it may consist. For what does the Notion of *Arbitrary* or *Despotick* power include more, than an Ability to alter and change the Measures in a State at pleasure, and to give weight where there is none, or take it away where there is ; which he that holds the *Ballance* between a pair of Scales is suppos'd able to do ? Otherwise a passive *Beam* might serve as well as any *Ballancer* of 'em all. When this *Ballancing* power is exercis'd with *Injustice*, *Violence*, *Oppression* and *Cruelty*, it is called *Tyranny* in the modern Sense of the Word : For, according to the *Ancientest* Usage of it, it is a Word of no ill Signification.

But this Notion of a *Ballance*, absolutely destroys that of a free Estate. For the Notion of a Free Estate supposes a Harmony and Symetry of Parts, Constantly and Regularly Co-operating to the same Ends and Purposes, any one of which parts being Check'd, are disorder'd, the Action of the whole Machine is disturb'd, if not destroy'd. But a *Ballance* supposes such a constant  
Opposi-



Opposition and Contraniteny between the constituent parts of it, without any Spring of Motion in it self, as must necessarily keep it in a State of perpetual inactivity, without *External Violence*.

But his Way of inferring the Necessity of such a Ballance, is yet more absurd, and out of the Way of Reason, than his Notion. For he finds it agreed among the Politicians, that it is necessarily for the Preservation of Kingdoms, and States independant and distinct from one another, that a Ballance be maintain'd among 'em, least the greater and more powerful should swallow up the Less; and therefore he concludes it equally good Policy for ev'ry State to erect such a Ballance, likewise within it self. But the Absurdity of this Notion will appear more manifestly, from the very Reason for which such a Ballance is so much desir'd. For the Interest of all Countries, not under the same Government, being separate, and usually opposite to each other, so that no one of 'em can Enterprize any thing, which may not either Immediately, or in the Consequence, turn to the disadvantage and hurt of some other, it is their mutual Interest to keep the several Powers suspended, and under an incapacity for Action; so long at least, as they

they shall be so Equilibrated, as that each Party shall have equal Reason to fear the mischievous Consequences of any Disturbance that may arise amongst 'em. But tho' this may be the Interest of all, consider'd together, it is not of any of 'em separately, when ever their own Fortune, or Prudence shall present 'em with an opportunity to break that Ballance, so as that their own may be the heavier Scale: For it is certainly for their Interest and Security, to have the Ballance incline to their own side. But this Consideration reaches not the several Members of the same Individual State, whose Interest cannot be oppos'd to each other, without manifest Ruine to the whole, and therefore there can be no Ballancing where all must necessarily lye in the same Scale.

This may suffice to give us a Taste of this Authors *Politicks* or his *Morals*: For if he fell into this Errour thro' want of Judgment, he has spent his time in Reading and Writing to little purpose, if he went into it through Design, he has spent it to very ill Purpose. When I considered the Impertinency of his Instances on one hand, and the Malice of his Applications on the Other, I knew not whether to Judge him more unskillfull

or

or perverse, and am at a Loss, what to make of him. But that perhaps is no more, than some that converse with him nearer, have been a long time.

After this the Author falls into an odd, Extravagant Fit of Raving, and talks wildly about the FEW and the MANY, without Coherence, or Pertinent Applications, for several Pages together. But this is one of his Learned Fits, and what is wanting in Argument is made up abundantly in Quotation. And here it may not be amiss, once for all, to give the Reader notice, that he is not to expect both at a time, from this Author.

However not to slight his pains, we will consider briefly how far his Instances suit his purpose. The drift of all his Reasonings (if the Logicians will forgive me for calling Absurdities so) is to shew the Preferrableness of a Government by one or a few Persons, to a Government by many; that is, of an Absolute Monarchy, or an Aristocracy, to a Democracy, or a mixt Government, such as ours at present is: For these two, are the only forms of Government by many, as he seems to understand the word.

In order to prove this, he rakes up all the Enormities that he can find in the



Ancient *Roman* and *Greek* Histories, to have been committed by any number of Confederated Usurpers, and endeavours by Application, to draw an odious Parallel between those Usurpers and our House of Commons. But tho' it may not be Lawful to question the Judgment of one so deep Read in Politicks, yet he may allow me to condemn his Luck, in the choice of his Instances. For most of 'em bear hard, where he least intended they should; and not one of the Rest any way affects that Honourable Body against whom they are apparently pointed.

The first is of the *Decemviri* at *Rome*, who were created on purpose, to Draw up, and Compile a Body of Laws, by which the Rights of the Nobility and Commons might be equally provided for, and secur'd; and that they might meet with no Interruption, the supreme and sole Authority was lodged in them without Appeal, and the Power of all Magistrates was for that year superceeded. But whatever was the misbehaviour of those Men (which was indeed very great) they bore no manner of Resemblance to the Body Collective or Representative of any People. For as *Livy* takes notice, tho' the *Commons* did insist to have some of their Order admitted  
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in to the number, yet the Senate stood it out obstinately, and the People at length yielded the Point to 'em. The Historian does not say by whom those first *Decemviri* were Nominated or Chosen: But they do not seem to have been at the Peoples Choice, by the Persons chosen, whereof Three were particularly obnoxious to the Commons; *Appius Claudius*, the Bitterest and most Implacable Enemy to the Commons in all Rome; *Publius Sextius*, who had given 'em a fresh disobligation, in Carriing the Point of Excluding the Commons from a share in the *Decemvirate*, into the Senate, against the Consent of his fellow Consul; and *Titus Romulius*, who had but Two years before been Condemn'd and Fin'd by the People upon an Impeachment. These Men we may be sure were upon that score not grateful to the People, and consequently not Chosen by 'em, and tis more than probable that none of the rest were; and therefore they were so far from being the *Representatives* of the People, that excepting their extraordinary Powers, they seem'd to have been no more than a Committe of the House of Lords.

The next that take their turn are the *Ephori* of Sparta: These were a sort of

Bench of Justices instituted by King *Theopompus*, who was a Prince so far from our Author's Ballancing principle, and thinking it necessary to have the turning of the Scales as he pleas'd, that he Erected this sort of Court of Judicature, on purpose to be a check to any Extraordinary Exercise of Prerogative, and when he was Reproach'd by his Wife, as having given up his own Authority, he told her, that he was so far from that, that he had only secured the continuance of it. But whither He or his Wife, or our Discourser be in the right, I shall refer the Reader back to History to judge, because the Instance is nothing at all to the purpose, these Judges bearing no Resemblance to any Legal Body or Assembly of Men amongst us. But if there be any Argument Couch'd under it, it is this: The *Ephori* were a check upon the Regal Power at *Sparta*, the *Ephori* became Tyrants; therefore all checks upon Regal Power must become Tyrants. I shall not trouble my self to Expound or Expose, for I think as some Men use 'em, there is no great difference in sense between those two words; nor shall I affront the Reader so far as to Interpret to 'em such plain Doctrines.

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The next Step is to *Athens*, and there we find the People discontented upon a long Series of Misfortunes ; But the Discourser takes no Notice of the Reason of that Discontent, which was the Mismanagement and Insolence of some of those who he calls their *Nobles*. In this Fit, instead of an *Archon*, they erected a high Commission, or Council of Four Hundred, and when they did not find that Relief which they expected from that Form, they broke it again. Now what would this Author infer from all this ? *Athens* was a Perfect Democracy, and it was certainly the Right of the Collective Body of the People there, to Cast their Government into what Form they pleas'd : And this alteration was not more wonderful and not in the least more injurious to any Body than for our Kings, instead of making a Lord Treasury, to put the Treasurer into Commission. They did as we have done, make the Experiment, and after finding the Mischief of it return'd to the old Form again. This Instance reaches the Constitution of our House of *Commons* as little as any of the former, except that the Number approach'd as much nearer, and then all the Inference that can be drawn from it, is, that if Four  
Hundred

Hundred Men could be Tyrants, Five Hundred and thirteen needs must; any other Conclusion than that is nothing to his purpose.

The rest of his Instances are so loose, so *mal a Propos*, that it would be as Impertinent as tedious to follow him through, especially since to Examine and display 'em at large.

For this Reason I shall pass oversightly his Thirty or Three Thousand Tyrants at *Athens*, and his *Dominatio Plebis*, or (as he has pleas'd to Translate it) *Tyranny of the Commons* at *Carthage*. The First was a Government Imposed by a Conquerer, and therefore had little Regard or Tenderness for the People, but acted as Arbitrarily as if they had his Ballance in their Hands; and if they did not come quite up to *Nero* and *Caligula* in Mischiefe, it was, Because the Passions of a Number of Men, who pretend to act by any Rule amongst whom Debates will Naturally arise, have thereby time to settle, and are not so Frolicsome, or so sudden as those of a single Man may be, who in a fit of Humour, or Anger, may do those Rash Things which an Hours time makes 'em repent off, when too late. The latter is a gross Mistake or something worse, for the State of *Carthage* was

was Ruin'd by the Faction of *Hanno*, who out of Envy to *Hannibal*, who had first rescued the Commons from the oppression of the Nobles (if he will have those Invidious Phrases) and set the Government at Home upon a more equal Foot, and had by the Favour of the People, and his own Great Conduct, in behalf of his Country, bidden fair for the Empire of the World, yet was at last, by the Tricks and Intreagues of one Rascally States-man and his Faction, defeated and his Country intirely Ruin'd and Subverted when no other Humane Power seemed able to encounter 'em without that Help. I hope no Part of that Instance Reaches us by way of Parallel, but if it does, I doubt the Weight of it will fall where he least intended it.

But least a House of Commons shou'd not be thought capable of the most inhumane Villianes that Mankind abhors, the Orators of *Argos* are brought upon the Stage. And why? Because (as the Discourser says) they were the Occasion that Sixteen Hundred of the Nobles were Murder'd at once.

But least the Reader shou'd not be able to apply this Instance to his Purpose, he takes Care to give 'em a suffici-  
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ent Direction in these Words, Whether you will stile them in Modern Phrase, *great Speakers in the House*, or only in General *Representatives of the People Collective*; but it seems there Orators far'd no better themselves, than those whom they accused; they had raised a Spirit they could not lay, and the Mobb tore them in Pieces too. But why? Because (as our Discourser has it) They withdrew their Impeachments. Whether this be a Lesson to our *House of Commons*, I shall leave the Members of that Honourable House to Judge; and I shall only observe upon the whole, that in all their Instances, there is a very villainous Misrepresentation of Fact, and a more foul Application. But my Design confining me to the Intention and Aim only of this Discourse, I have not Enlarg'd so much upon Particulars as I might have done; but do Accept of the Challenge in the Title Page of his Book,

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*Si tibi Vera videtur  
dede Manus; Et si falsa est accingere contra.*

If he thinks fit to Vindicate, I'll promise him more than I am bound too, to use him like a Gentleman, and take no other

other Notice of him, than as Author of that Pamphlet; and shall be glad by a Reply, to find him willing to have the Matter fairly, and at large discuss'd; unless he shall give me fresh Provocation to Treat him otherwise.

His Conclusions are not all of a Piece, and do not equally follow from his Positions.

In the First, I agree with him, that a mix'd Government is not of *Gothick* Invention, but has Place in Nature and Reason. And in Favour of this Position, I shall venture so much farther than the Discourser, as to affirm, That since the *Theocracy* of the *Jews*, no Form of Government that I have read of, can stand in Competition with it. And because he seems so much more fond of Authority than Reason, I will, out of many, fling him in one, that I hope he will have no Opportunity to pervert. *Tacitus*, who was almost as great a *Politician*, and something more Faithful an Historian than our Discourser, says, *Natio Lib. 4.*  
*nes & Urbes Populus aut Primo-*  
*res, aut Singuli regant, Dilecta ex his &*  
*Constituta Reipublicæ forma laudari faci-*  
*lius, quam evenire potest.* By which it  
 seems, that *Tacitus*, thought such a Con-  
 K stitution

stitution as ours, more to be wish'd, than hop'd for; and he had Reason on his Side. For whatever our Discourser may fancy, he had never seen nor read of any such Constitution; and was far enough from dreaming of any such Ballance as our Author has invented, to qualifie the Happiness of such a Government, as meer strength of Reason told him, was in it self most Excellent. And 'tis plain, that tho' he never had the Felicity to experience such a Government, that if he had, he would have imploy'd all his Reason (of which, perhaps he was as great a Master as the Ballancer) to have preserv'd it; not to have destroy'd it by false Notions, and Unjust, Malicious Suggestions.

His next Conclusion is false: For if such a Ballance at home, as he has imagined, be utterly inconsistent with the Liberty of a Free Estate (which I think is already demonstrated) then they

P. 10. who oppose it, 'are the mighty Patriots, and as much in the true Interest of their Country, as they can affect to be thought: And on the Contrary, those that, with this Author, Labour to Erect such a Ballance here, ought to be looked upon as Subverters of our Constitution, and the most



most dangerous sort of Enemies that it can have. But the Ballancer thought he had found an opportunity to misrepresent the Members of the House of Commons; and tho' both his Reasonings, and his Facts were false, yet he would not let it slip, without inferring the worst that Malice was able to impose, or Ignorance to receive.

His Third Inference is the Summ and Substance of his whole Work, and what in all, that has preceded, and in all that follows, he drives solely at.

But this Position is in its own Nature so absolutely destructive of all Free Government, especially that of *England*, That he cares not to come at it, without a great many Doublings, and Turnings, to avoid a close Pursuit. However, the Reader shall have it in his own Words.

*This makes appear, the Error of P. 10. those who conceive, That Power is safer lodg'd in many Hands, than in One.* This is Doctrine that may perhaps deserve Thanks from the Government in *Turky*, *Muscovy*, or *France*; but in *England*, requires a severe Chastisement.

The Rest of this Book is spent in Foreign Instances, with Oblique Reflections upon Home, to give the Nice,  
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and unwary, an unsavory Relish of our Constitution; and is written with the Craft of a Fox, who (as the Woodmen tell us) will lay his own Ordure in a Badger's Nest, on Purpose to stink the cleanly Creature out of his Habitation, and to take Possession of it himself.

His next Three Chapters, are spent entirely in Railing at Impeachments, and Representing that Power as too dangerous to be trusted in the *House of Commons*. But all that he has said there, even to his particular Instances, and all that I think him capable of saying on the Argument, is already sufficiently, and I believed designedly answer'd in the History of the last Sessions of Parliament: to which from Page 44, to Page 155, I Referr the curious Reader, and doubt not but he will find there that Satisfaction, as to the Reasonableness and Use, which neither the Reason nor the Compass of my Design will allow me to give him here: And therefore I shall only take Notice, that the drift and aim of these Three Chapters, is to wrest from the *Commons* the Power of *Impeachment*, by persuading the People, that they have not Discretion to use it, and that it is useless and dangerous  
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in their Hands. The Discourser may Rail as much he pleases ; but if any *Popular Orator*, either of *Athens* or *Argos*, or the most Factious Tribune of *Rome*, did ever in quiet Times make an Attempt of such pernicious Consequence to the Government under which he lived, as the Discourser has now done, I will be content to see his Ballance erected, and the holding of it put into his Hands, which most that know him would think (as I do) the greatest Misfortune that could befall their Country or themselves.

From these Instances, how wide soever from the Truth, and how loosely and incoherently soever put together, he draws the following Inferences.

First, That 'no Multitude, whether 'Collective or Represented, has 'been at any time very Nice P. 41. 'in observing the Distinction, 'between Liberty and Licentiousness.

Secondly, That 'the Commons have 'been perpetually mistaken in the Merits of the Causes and the Persons, as 'well as in the Consequences of 'Impeachments, upon the Peace of P. 42. 'the Estate, and therefore were by 'no Means qualify'd, either as Prosecutors 'or Judges in such Matters. 'Tis true, he endeavours



endeavours to qualifie this Assertion by pretending to level it more particularly at *Athens* and *Rome*, and to abate something of the Universality of it, by inserting this Parenthesis (*whatever they may be in other States.*) But 'tis plain, he meant to comprehend the *Commons* of *England*, and their *Representatives* in *Parliament* in this Disabling Clause, by Excluding them from *Prosecuting*, which is the peculiar Right of the People of *England*, who pretend not to be Judges in Cases of Impeachments, as the *Commons* of *Athens* and *Rome* did; who, on the other Hand, never were *Prosecutors* in such Cases.

Thirdly, 'That the *Commons* think themselves concern'd in Point of Honour, to  
 'condemn whatever Person they  
 P. 44. 'Impeach, let the Articles be never  
 'so frivolous, or the Surmises never so weak, on which they are to proceed in their Proofs.

Fourthly, That 'the Body of *Commons*,  
 'either Collective, or Represented,  
 P. 46. 'has the ill Fortune to be generally Led, and Influenced by the  
 'very worst among themselves.

Fifthly, That 'ev'ry Man that is chosen  
 'to Represent his Country in Parliament,  
 'turns

' turns Fool or Mad-man : Or  
 ' as he expressees it, That there is P. 57, 58.  
 ' hardly to be found through  
 ' all Nature, a greater Difference between  
 ' Two Things, than there is between a  
 ' Representing Commoner, in the Function  
 ' of his Publick Calling, and the same  
 ' Person, when he Acts in the Common  
 ' Offices of Life : When he has got near the  
 ' Walls of his Assembly, he assumes, and  
 ' affects an intire Set of very different  
 ' Airs, he conceives himself a Being of a  
 ' Superiour Nature to those without ; and  
 ' Acting in a Sphere, where the Vulgar  
 ' Methods for the Conduct of Humane  
 ' Life, can be of no Use. He is Lifted in a  
 ' Party, where he neither knows the Tem-  
 ' per nor the Designs, nor perhaps the Per-  
 ' son of his Leader ; and has neither Opi-  
 ' nions, nor Thoughts, nor Actions, nor  
 ' Talk, that he can call his own ; but all is  
 ' convey'd to him by his Leader, as Wind  
 ' is through an Organ. This is the Character  
 he gives of a *Representing Commoner*,  
 without Exception, or Restriction ; which  
 if he can clear both from Folly and Mad-  
 ness, then I'll be contented to wear the  
 Cap and Bells ; if he can not, then that  
*August* Assembly must, or which, I be-  
 lieve to be most just, this Dogmatizer  
 ought,

ought, with something additional, to Grace his Neck or Shoulders.

Sixthly, That 'Buying and Selling of Elections for Members to P. 60, 61. 'serve in Parliament, is a 'Practice that ought to be 'Protected and Encouraged.

And Lastly, He Summs up all with this Use and Application, 'that this Aver- P. 59. 'sion of the People to the late Pro- 'ceedings of the *Commons*, is an 'Accident, that if it lasts a while, 'might be improv'd to good Uses.

And here I think I may dismiss him in some of his own Words; which, with a very little alteration, may be as true in my Mouth, as they were false in P. 48. his : That 'I am not conscious, 'that I have forced one Inference, 'or put it into any other Light, than it appear'd to me, long before I had Thoughts 'of producing it.

And therefore, I shall only crave leave, to Summ up the Design and Tendency of this pernicious Libel, in a few plain Positions.

First, That the Author had a Design to subvert our Constitution and Establish'd Government, by endeavouring to introduce a Ballance which was inconsistent with it.

Secondly,



Secondly, That in comparing the Methods of Trial, by Impeachments amongst us, with that in Use at *Athens* and *Rome*, and charging the injustice of their Judgments upon us; he is guilty of a very foul Mis-representation, and has, to the utmost of his Power, maliciously overthrown the great Bulwark of the Liberties of the People.

Thirdly, By Representing the Collective Body of the People, as a Giddy, Violent, unjust Rabble, unfit for the Exercise of any Power, he does consequently, endeavour to deprive 'em of that Share in the Government, which by our Constitution they ought to have.

And Lastly, That by Characterizing a *House of Commons*, as such, as Consisting of all Fools and Madmen; he has done his utmost to Destroy the very Being of a *House of Commons*; and that by his Comparisons with the *Decemviri*, the *Ephori*, the *Tribunes*, the *Tyrants* of *Athens*, and the *Orators* of *Argos*; he has attempted to Blemish the most Eminent Members of that Honorable House, with the Odious Character of *Seditious Mutineers*, *Traytors*, *Tyrants* and *Murderers*; and thereby, as far as he could Instigated  
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and Inflamed the Mob, to abuse, evil Treat, and *de Wit* their Persons.

The several Articles of this Charge are already prov'd upon him beyond Contradiction; And therefore I would advise him, if he means to escape the Censure which is due to his undertaking, to keep himself effectually concealed; or if he can't do that, to plead, that when he wrote and publish'd this Libel, his Brains were under the Dominion of the Moon, and under that Charitable Construction, I recommend him to the Care of Dr. *Tyson*, the sober Diet and seasonable, tho' sharp Discipline of whose Colledge, may Conduce very much to the bettering both of his Mind and Manners.

But if after all he must needs justify he ought to do it according to his own Motion, after *Charondas* his way, with a Halter about his Neck, and I that am no Prophet can foretel that he will meet with his Fate, and dye by a Law of his own making; however I would advise him not to be any more severe upon *Oliver's* Lords for the Vileness of their Clay. For however Just the Reflection may be from other Persons, yet if he shou'd step forth and shew his

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own Face, 'tis possible the Comparifon may be little to his Advantage.

By this time it is more than probable that the Reader may be tired as well as convinc'd, by fo tedious a Proof of a plain Propofition: But the Infolence and Clamour of a certain Party, by whom the very Libels here arraign'd, and innumerable others of the Like Nature, were Contriv'd, Commended, Countenanced, and Induftrioufly Difpers'd over all the Kingdom, have been of late fo very provoking, and there appears fo little Probability of laying that Reftlefs Spirit, by meer Connivance or Oblivion, that tho' a private Man might, and ought to forgive perfonal Injuries, when he thinks it conducive to the Publick Peace, yet ev'ry Man is bound in Duty, as far as he is able, to difplay and difappoint fuch Defigns, as may at one time or other prove Fatal to it.

For this Reason it is, that I have entred fo particularly into the Proof of what the Author of the *History of the laft Seflions of Parliament*, has only hinted in his Preface; and I believe after what has been here produced, that no Man will doubt whether there was a Defign againft our Conftitution; and am alfo perfuaded,



that ev'ry Impartial Man will see, that open Attempts were made to procure an Insurrection of the Mob upon that *House of Commons*, of which he writes; and considering that no other Provocation was given, than an endeavour to Rectify some Abuses of which the Nation at that time Complained very generally, and very loudly; and to call those, whom they thought the Principal Offenders, to account, and how dangerously Ill used the *Commons* were for it, the Author had Reason to say, that the Managers of that Intreague did endeavour *to have given us a new Model of Government of their own Projection,*

*and soto have procured to themselves a lasting Impunity, and to have mounted their own Beast the Rabble, and driven the sober Part of the Nation like Cattle before 'em.*

Prefa. to the  
History &c.

I shall only now ask the Reader, whether he finds any thing asserted in that Paragraph, which I have not shewn not only sufficient Ground for, but full proof of? And I can assure him, that I have not used one Instance which the Author in that Preface did not so sufficiently refer to, as to lead me to the Particular Proofs, without further help. If any Man thinks what I have here produc'd, not sufficient, let

let him make his Exceptions Publick, and I'll Promise him Satisfaction, as Ample and as Publick as he can desire. In the mean Time, let no Man be surpriz'd at the Vehement Clamour, and violent Railing of a certain Party. *Tacitus* has given the Reason of such Noises in Three Words, *Acriores quia iniqua*. They have nothing to cover the Foulness of their Designs, and the Injustice of their Accusations; but the Confidence with which they boast themselves, and the Violence wherewith they Attack better Men.

The other Paragraph which they attack in that Preface, will not require a long defence; and therefore in that I shall endeavour to make the Reader some amends for his Patience in the foregoing.

In this Paragraph there is but one positive Assertion, which is, That her Majesty (whom for our safety God long Preserve and Prosper) then the Princess of *Denmark*, and beyond all possibility of Legal Intervention Heir apparent to the Crown, *was treated with Neglect, Slight and Disrespect*, by a certain Party in the Nation.

Good manners forbid me to repeat those villainous, false and slanderous Aspersions

sions that were cast upon her frequently and publickly, by a foul-mouth'd sort of People, who were then well known to have no Affection for Her, neither can any body that then Convers'd freely, be unfurnish'd of such Instances from his own Observation, and therefore I need not take pains to Convince Men of that which every Honest observing Man carries a Thousand Witnesses of in his own Breast. But if we shall add to this, the Coldness and little Regard that was shew'd to Her by those, within whose Power, as well as Duty it was, to have pay'd more Respect, I think the matter so notorious, that it wou'd be almost Impertinent to proceed further in the proof. Yet that the Party may have nothing to object, *Ex ore suo Condemnabitur. Socinulus*, who hath been a long time the Publick Advocate of a certain Party, in his *Reasons for Attainting, and Abjuring the Pretended Prince of WALES*, tells us in plain *English*, speaking of the then King and present Queen, *They both of 'em very well know what Stories and Surmises our Enemies have been actually spreading, to amuse and intimidate the People, They have Whisper'd horrible things of Blind and Clancular Bargains. But Cesar's Wife ought*

P. 20.

Par. 31.



*ought to be unsuspected, as well as innocent.* Here tho' the King, for Colour, is joyn'd in the Premisses, yet the Conclusion Applicatory throws the whole weight and odium upon the Princels. For it is plain, by the Phrase, *Cesar's Wife*, that he meant to Exempt the Man, and Load the Woman only with the Suspition, and so to leave her obnoxious to the People, for all the Jealousies that by such a Suggestion he should be able to raise in 'em. I shall have occasion by and by, to shew what Previous Care he had taken to fix the Imputation upon the Princess, and how well he stood affected towards her and her Title.

But in the latter Part of this Paragraph it is said, that the Scandalous Liberties taken with the Princess at one time by some People in their common Talk, were managed with as much Fierceness, Malice, and Violence as, *if a Bill of Exclusion had then been on the Anvil, and these were the Introductory Ceremonies.*

Some People have been very much provoked and alarm'd at this slight Mention of a Bill of Exclusion ; They have vented abundance of Indiscreet Malice against the Author for it, and taken much unnecessary Pains to clear themselves from

from the Suspition of being privy to any such Intended Bill. To such an unnecessary Defence, I shall only answer with the Comic Poet,

*Nescio quid Peccati portat hac Purgatio.*

To be over solicitous to clear our selves before we are accus'd, is not always the surest sign of Innocence. But to make 'em as easie in that Point as I can, I am apt to believe that the Author himself did not certainly know of any such Bill then on Foot, or in Projection, and therefore he has not affirm'd either Directly or Indirectly, any such thing. All that his words import, is, that by the Scurrilous Liberty that many People took with the *Princess*, and the Coldness and Slight wherewith others Treated her, one would not imagine that these Persons expected that she shou'd ever wear the Crown. I must confess I shou'd have thought as the Author did: But when I reflect on the Carriage of some People since, I do not much wonder that those Men shou'd overlook the *Princess*, who still shew so little Regard for the Queen.

But since they have moved such an Enquiry, it may not be amiss to Pro-

prosecute it a little further ; and I persuade my self, that whether it was intended by Bill, or otherwise, I shall be able to shew some Overt Attempts, to dispose the People for such an Exclusion, when ever any Body shou'd have the hardiness to propose it.

No sooner was the last Succession Bill past, than some forward People were very vehemently Pressing, to have the Electress *Dowager*, and Prince *Electoral* of *Hanover*, call'd over, by Publick and Solemn Invitation, to make their Residence here ; and, notwithstanding the great distress we are in for Money, to have an Allowance made 'em out of the Publick Purse, for their Court ; equal at least, if not superiour to that of the Princess and Prince of *Denmark*. Now if they be such long sighted *Politicians* as they set up for, they must needs foresee, that the Opposition of Two such Courts to each other, must necessarily have produc'd an Emulation betwixt 'em ; and that such an Emulation must have put the King under very great Hardships, to carry himself so evenly, and dispose his Countenance and Favours so equally betwixt 'em, as to give neither side just Cause of

M      discontent.



discontent. They must needs be aware, that this *Hannouer Court* here, having an equal Allowance from the Crown, besides the Advantage of a Jointure, and perhaps, a further Allowance from *Hannouer*, wou'd have it in their Power, infinitely to outfigure, in Splendor and Magnificence, the Princess and Prince of *Denmark*; and consequently, to draw from them the Eyes and Court of great Numbers of the People. They knew that the *Dissenters*, in general, bore no great Good will to the *Princess* for her firm Adherence to the *Church of England*; and consequently, that they were likely to devote themselves intirely to another Interest, if such a one cou'd be introduc'd amongst 'em. They were conscious, that a certain restless Faction had been Indefatigably Industrious, by Malicious Aspersions, to render the *Princess* Ungracious with the People. They were not insensible that the Court Sun shone but faintly at that Time upon *St. James's*; and probably were not without their hopes, that by the Interposition of another Object, even those faint Beams might be wholly intercepted. They were not unacquainted, that those, who stuck most faithfully to the Service and Interest of the *Princess*, lay

lay under present Discouragements. And lastly, They knew the unfriendly Warmths which themselves had help'd to raise, between the several Parties in this Kingdom, and consequently knew, that they wou'd never unite peaceably under one Head, while there was a Possibility of Ranging themselves under different Banners.

They who consider these things impartially, and of how little use that old Princesses Residence here cou'd be to us, and of how great Expence it must be, as it was propos'd, will, I believe, readily conclude, that the Proposers of that Invitation, did it with no other Design, than to lay a Rub in the Princess of *Denmark's* Way to the Throne. And I believe, the History of no Country, can shew one Instance, where remote Heirs were called for with so much Importunity, and to so much Charge, the Heir apparent then in good Health, and in Capacity of having Issue that might, by the Law, exclude 'em from the Throne forever. In any other Country, such a Motion would have been look'd upon as Bordering upon Treason; and in ours, cannot be absolutely overlook'd, as if nothing dangerous

were Couch'd under it, without the last degree of Stupidity.

The Author of the Printed Reasons, for inviting over the *Electress* P. 6. *Dowager*, and Prince *Electoral* of Par. 10. *Hannouer*, contents himself to call these, the *Extravagant Objections* of *JACOBITES*; and poorly endeavours to obviate 'em, by telling us, that *they* (the *Princess* of *Denmark*, and the *Electress Dowager*) have both of 'em too much Sense to Quarrel on any other Account, than of Place or Precedence, which is an Answer too trifling to be taken notice of. But however he may please himself, with the Complement he passes upon the *Queens* Sense, I can assure him, that he has not done so much Justice to Her Understanding, as he has offer'd wrong to Her Title.

In this very Paragraph, he tells us, that Her Title is only grounded on Two Acts of Parliament. By this Impudent Assertion, he endeavours to destroy Her Majesty's Right by Inheritance, and to make Her Title meerly Precarious, and subject to the Will and Pleasure of the People, and so to lay it upon a Level, with the Title of the House of *Hannouer*, by giving the same Foundation to both; and how far he is willing to preserve to Her Majesty this only



only Basis which he allows to Her Title, I mean, the Affection of the People, express'd in that Act of Parliament, we shall examine by and by. It wou'd be Impertinent, and from the Purpose, here to Undertake a needless Defence of Her Majesty's Hereditary Right ; and therefore I shall only observe here, that that Act, so far as it concerns Her Majesty, is no more than a bare Recognition of Her Right ; but that it is the sole Foundation of the Claim of the House of *Hannouer*.

Having, thus, as he thinks, destroy'd Her Majesty's best and surest Title, our Reason Broker proceeds to unqualify Her for the Crown ; and having justify'd the Deposing ( as he calls it ) of the late King *James* for Tyranny, he proceeds to tell us, that it appears from History,

that all free People have set aside  
the Children of Tyrants, for Rea-  
sons of Eternal and Universal

*Reasons for  
attaining, &c.  
P. 15. Par.  
23.*

Force, as Inheriting the Principles and Designs of their Parents. Now, neither he, nor others, allow the Pretended prince of *Wales*, or any other since, born in *France*, to be the Children of King *James* ; nor had that Unhappy Prince any Child then living, whom either this Author, or We, acknowledge to be His, except

except the present Queen; and consequently, what is here said, must be pointed at Her, and at Her only. This Reasoning put into a Syllogistical Form, runs thus:

**A** *LL free People, exclude the Children of Tyrants.*

**K** *ING James was a Tyrant.*

**T** *Herefore the Children of King James ought to be excluded.*

**T** *HE Children of King James ought to be excluded.*

**T** *HE Princess of Denmark is the Child of King James.*

**T** *Herefore the Princess of Denmark ought to be excluded.*

Here is no forced Construction, no Violence offered to this Writer's Argument, but it runs naturally into the Two foregoing Syllogismes. But least I shou'd be thought to extend these Conclusions farther then the Author himself design'd they shou'd reach, let us hear how far he himself wou'd carrie it a Page or Two farther. In the very same Pamphlet, proposing to the Imitation of the *English*, the Example of the *Romans*, in the Case of *Tarquin*, he says, *Junius Brutus*, who to use the Words of *Livy*, 'Was not a more Zealous

' Zealous Asserter, than watchful  
 ' *Guardian* of Liberty, got the Peo- P. 17.  
 ' ple to make an Act of Banish- Par. 23.  
 ' ment, against all those of the *Tarquinian*  
 ' Name; and least they shou'd be softened  
 ' by the Bribes or Entreaties of the Royal  
 ' Family, he ingag'd them by an *Oath*,  
 ' that they wou'd never suffer any of them  
 ' to Reign at *Rome*. And least the Authority  
 of *Livy* alone, shou'd not be sufficient to  
 provoke us to Imitation. he repeats the  
 same Example again, out of *Dionysius*  
*Halicarnassensis*, which being the same in  
 Substance, only a little more strongly put,  
 I shall not recite it at length; but observe  
 only, that according to this Proposal and  
 Example, all the Race and Name of the  
*Stuarts*, shou'd not only have been exclu-  
 ded from Reigning in, but Banished from  
 this Land for ever.

This Author is so notorious an Advocate  
 for a Party, and so much caress'd and  
 cry'd up by 'em, and his Work so in-  
 dustriously handed about, and even the  
 Project of this Piece, in Part, Executed,  
 that what he writes is not to be looked  
 upon as the Sense of a single Person. I shall  
 therefore willingly conclude with him,  
 and from the foregoing Passages, only  
 observe that he has manifestly arraign'd  
 the



the Title, the Family, and the Person of the Queen.

There is but one other way left yet to Attack her, and that Omission of his, is supply'd by another Celebrated Writer of the same Party. Nothing remains now unexcepted against, but her Sex, which the Author of an *Essay upon the present Interest of ENGLAND*, has Attack'd; and he speaking of the *Salique* Law, which excludes Females from the Government in *France*, has this *Encomium* upon it. 'But that  
'wise Constitution in the *French* Government,  
'prevails not amongst its Neighbours,  
P. 2. 'who will blindly persevere, to give  
'*France* the same Advantage over them,  
'which the Church enjoys over the Laity in  
'*Popish* Countries.

These Doctrines Preach'd in a Country, where the Heir apparent was a Woman, and the Daughter of an Exiled King, seem'd to favour of no good Design. But I shall leave the Consideration of 'em to my Superiours, and humbly thank GOD and that Honest Parliament, who defeated the wicked Purposes of Our and Her Majesty's Enemies, and secured to us, the Blessing of our Antient Constitution, and Her Majesty's happy Reign; for the long Continuance of which, all honest Men ought to Pray.

F I N I S.

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